



Global Wireless by  T-Mobile®

# Wireless Priority Service (WPS)

## VoiceStream Wireless 2002

**Gary K. Jones**  
Director of Standards Policy  
[gary.jones@voicestream.com](mailto:gary.jones@voicestream.com)  
+1 (202) 654-5950

## WHAT IS WPS?

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- WPS provides a means for National Security and Emergency Preparedness (NS/EP) telecommunications users to obtain priority access to available wireless radio channels when necessary to initiate emergency calls during periods of wireless network congestion.
- In times of national emergency or crisis, the system enables the designated WPS users to have a greater chance of being able to place calls.
- Priority calls are placed in queue for the next available radio resource, according to time and priority level of the caller.
- Preemption is not allowed under FCC rules
- WPS is provided via the nearest cell site to that call, and thus users not in that very specific geography may be unaffected.
- Under normal everyday circumstances consumers will see no change in the ability to make calls.

# WHY CREATE WPS?

## TERRORISM

When: April 19, 1995 (Oklahoma City)

September 11, 2001

(NY, Washington DC, Pennsylvania)



**CALL VOLUMES 14 TIMES OVERLOAD**

## SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA EARTHQUAKE

When: 5:04 P.M. on October 17, 1989

Magnitude: 7.1 on the Richter scale

Duration: 20-seconds



**> 10 TIMES OVERLOAD**

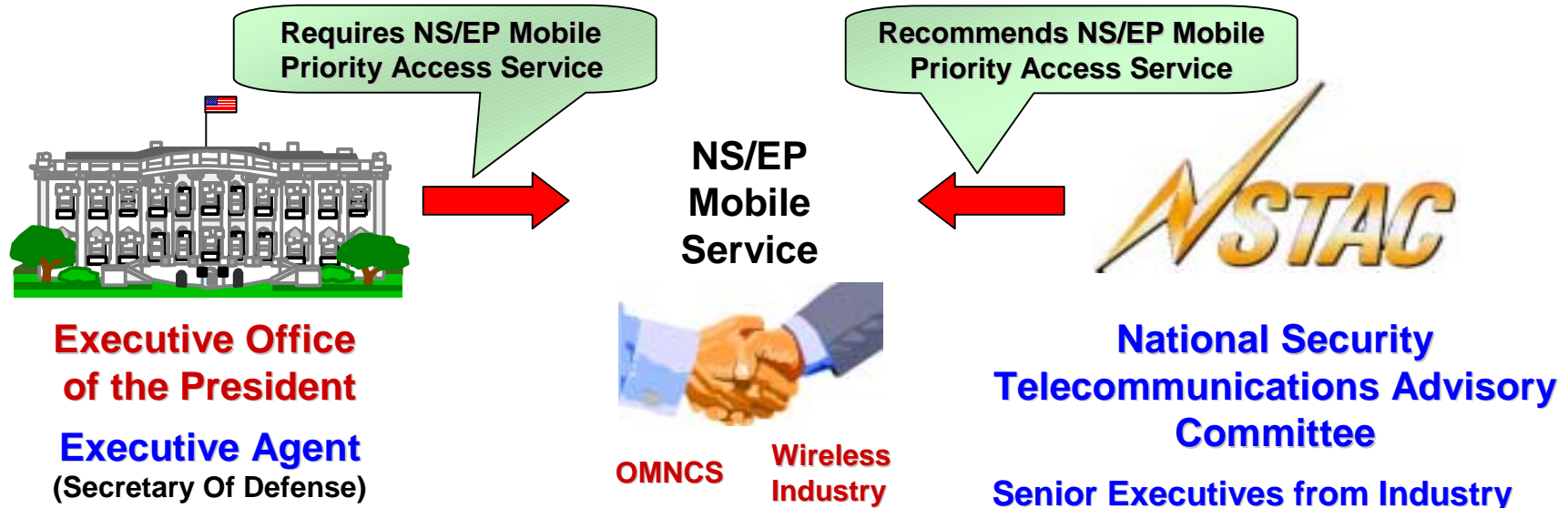
**MEANS LOW LIKELIHOOD OF NS/EP CALL COMPLETION**



# WHO IS ASKING FOR HELP?

## National Communications System

Responsible for our Nation's Critical National Security and Emergency Preparedness Telecommunications  
([www.ncs.gov](http://www.ncs.gov))



**Office of the Manager, NCS (OMNCS)**  
(Manager, Deputy Manager, Programs)

**22 Departments & Agencies**

DOS	TREAS	DOD	DOJ	DOI	USDA
DOC	HHS	DOT	DOE	CIA	JS
GSA	NASA	VA	FEMA	FCC	
NRC	USPS	FRB	NSA	NTIA	

**11 September 2001  
Escalates Urgency!**

**CHAIR:** Daniel P. Burnham  
President and CEO  
Raytheon Company

+ Presidents/CEOs from  
AT&T, Boeing, Microsoft, BellSouth,  
Northrop Grumman, Motorola, Nortel, Sprint,  
WorldCom, Cisco, TRW, EDS, SAIC, Verizon,  
Dell, Lucent, Lockheed Martin, Qwest, Teledesic,  
Bank of America, USTA, ESET, Hughes, Unisys,  
CSC, SBC, Global Crossing, Rockwell, ITT

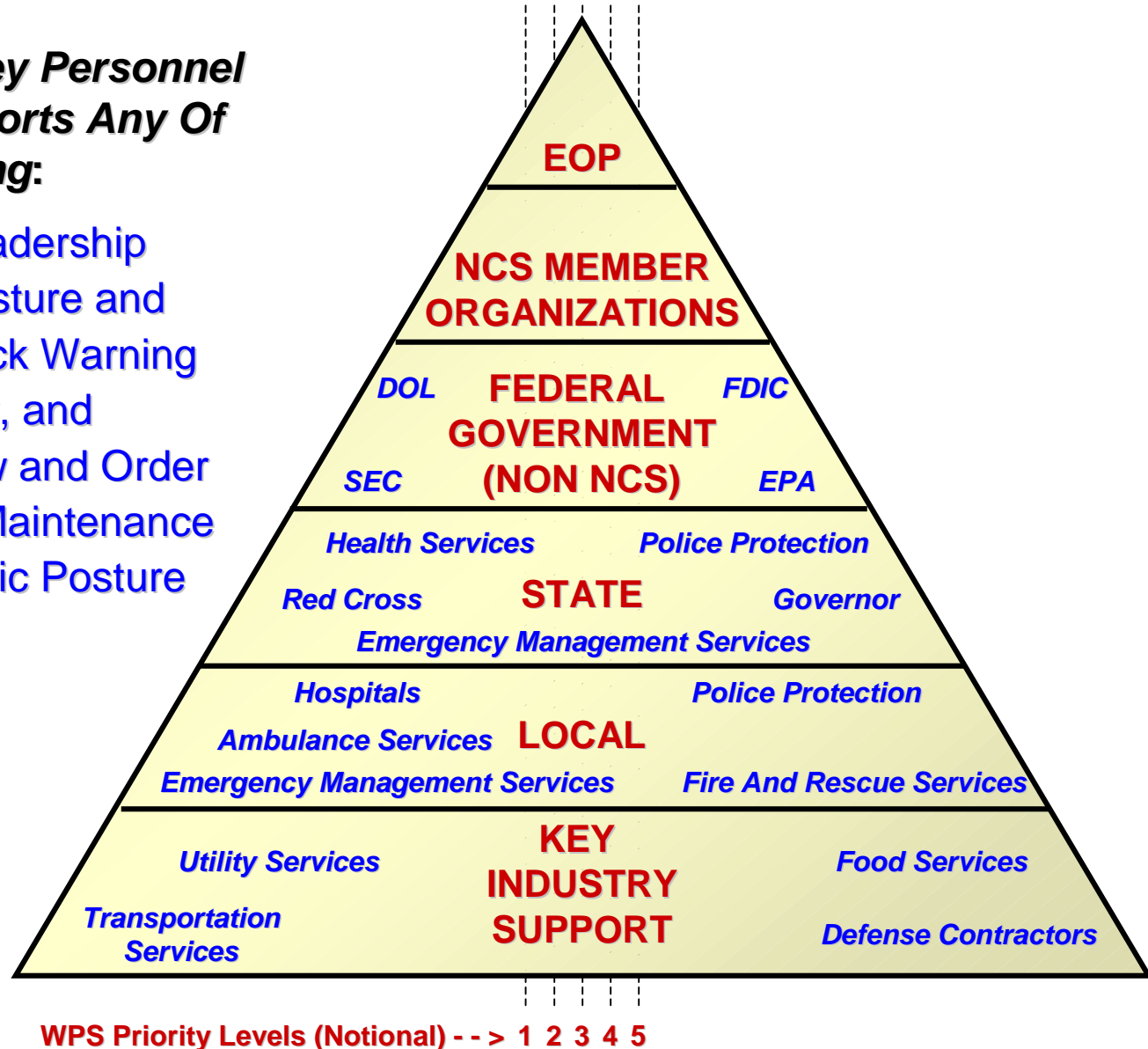
<http://www.ncs.gov/NSTAC/nstac.htm>



# WHO WILL USE PRIORITY SERVICE?

***NS/EP Leaders and Key Personnel  
Whose Mission Supports Any Of  
The Following:***

- National Security Leadership
- National Security Posture and US Population Attack Warning
- Public Health, Safety, and Maintenance of Law and Order
- Public Welfare and Maintenance of National Economic Posture



## **WHO WILL USE PRIORITY SERVICE?**

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**National Security and Emergency Preparedness (NS/EP) users will have access to WPS based on their priority level:**

1. Executive Leadership and Policy Makers
2. Disaster Response / Military Command and Control
3. Public Health, Safety, and Law Enforcement Command
4. Public Services/ Utilities and Public Welfare
5. Disaster Recovery

**Approval for use of WPS must come from the National Communications System (NCS) - Not from VoiceStream**

## WHEN WILL WPS BE DELIVERED?

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- **Immediate Solution**

- The National Communications System (NCS) has awarded VoiceStream the contract through DynCorp to provide wireless Priority Access Service (WPS) for the greater Washington, D.C. & New York City areas.
- 5,000 handset units will be provided by the government to national security & emergency preparedness personnel with federal, state, and local government in the two areas with system operability April 2002.



## WHEN WILL WPS BE DELIVERED?

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- **Nationwide Solution**

- The GSM Community in the United States is working to develop a more fully featured WPS capability for deployment nationwide by the end of 2002 and complete WPS capabilities by the end of 2003.
- Provides the ability to invoke priority use on a per-call or per-session basis, which should be in place by the end of 2002. Incorporation of end-to-end priority treatment of wireless calls should be available by the end of 2003.
- The group is developing methods of preserving a portion of the system capacity for non-priority and 911 calls, if the system were to become “monopolized” by the priority users.



## WHAT DOES WPS COST?

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- **Subscriber Service** - VoiceStream's WPS is a subscriber service with a monthly fee. In everyday circumstances, non-priority calls come from buckets of minutes, which are charged based on a very competitive pricing plan offered under a large group government user contract.
- **Emergency Service** - In times of crisis or national emergency when WPS users are utilizing this service, the rates for calls would be at an increased, but reasonable, WPS rate.

## WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES

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- **Coverage**

- Additional cell sites and capacity may be required for areas important to the NS/EP community. Assistance will be required from the NS/EP community for development of those sites.

- **Security**

- Many NS/EP users will want to have secure communications in times of emergency. Type I secure communications can be facilitated with priority service.

- **Dedicated Capacity**

- Some NS/EP users may find it desirable to have dedicated capacity for their communication needs. Various ways to accommodate this need should be investigated (i.e., building dedicated networks, buying capacity on existing networks, etc.).

## **GLOSSARY**

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- Enhanced Multi-Level Precedence and Preemption (eMLPP)
- Executive Office of the President (EOP)
- Final Operational Capability (FOC)
- Government Emergency Telecommunications Service (GETS)
- Initial Operational Capability (IOC)
- National Security and Emergency Preparedness (NS/EP)
- National Communications System (NCS)
- Office of the Manager National Communications System (OMNCS)
- Wireless Priority Service (WPS)